

March 20, 1987

Dear Mr. Rude:

Thank you for your kind message. I appreciate your warm words of support and confidence.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.  
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Lloyd L. Rude  
509 Third Avenue South  
South St. Paul, MN 55075

HHB/SW/WJB/RKS/jzf4  
HHB-1

65  
H113-1  
509 - 3<sup>rd</sup> avenue, South, South-  
Saint, Paul - Minnesota.  
March - 7<sup>th</sup> - 1989.

Dear Friend Howard -

"It has now been some time -  
since I have written you, so  
this evening will try and write  
you a few lines - "I still  
have the letter that you  
sent me a while back -

I'm glad that you got in as  
Chief of Staff there in Wash-  
ington, "I'm sure you will  
try and do your best with  
the new job; "I will  
pray for you, "I know that  
the Lord want's us to pray  
for them that is in authority  
over us;

"It has been a very nice  
winter here in the twin cities.

- OVER -

hardly ~~and~~ <sup>not</sup> snow, and I did  
not mind that, because of the  
snow shoveling - "and today  
the temperature was 75 degrees  
above zero -  
We appreciate your time if  
you would write us again.

---

"In Christian love:

Lloyd L. Rude.

- Roman's - 10-9 -

March 20, 1987

Dear Mrs. Payton:

Thank you for your kind message. I appreciate your warm words of support and confidence.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.  
Chief of Staff to the President

Mrs. Robert W. Payton  
230 Narragansett Street, N.E.  
Palm Bay, FL 32907

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U5  
HAB-1

MRS. ROBERT W. PAYTON  
230 NARRAGANSETT STREET, N. E.  
PALM BAY, FLORIDA 32907

March 8, 1981

Dear Mr. Baker,

As an American and a Republican, I would like to express my gratitude to you for taking on the job you have at such a critical time. The country is in your debt.

yours truly,  
Carol W. Payton

March 20, 1987

Dear Mrs. Crocker:

Thank you for your kind message. I appreciate your warm words of support and confidence.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.  
Chief of Staff to the President

Mrs. Rose Crocker  
4448 Morganford Lane  
St. Louis, MO 63116

HHB/SW/WJB/RKS/jzf4  
HHB-1

Dear Sister Baker.

3/10/87

HHB-1 Wont to express my sincere thanks to you for accepting the position from which Mr. Reagan has resigned.

President Reagan could not find a better man for the job - one who is respected by the Public and Politicians on both sides of the aisle. Even the Media seem to agree that you are a wise choice.

Know you have made a sacrifice in accepting the President's appointment - that you had planned to run for President - Perhaps, next time?? Hope so! I think the Country will respect you even more for helping out at this time.

Good luck and Best Wishes to you and your family. Respectfully,  
Gore Crocker

March 20, 1987

Dear Mrs. Wise:

Thank you for your kind message. I appreciate your warm words of support and confidence.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.  
Chief of Staff to the President

Mrs. Larry Wise  
8605 Ellsworth  
Santeo, CA 92071

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HHB-1

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HHB-1—

March 9, 1987

Dear Howard Baker,

Congratulations on your new post as Chief of Staff. Am sure you'll do an excellent job. About two years ago I was watching a program on TV and they had a psychic or who went into a trance and answered questions from the audience. One man asked who the next President would be. He answered that Bush would be the next President and that after him would be a good man named Baker. So when I first saw you on TV I knew I was watching history unfold.

You a good looking man. Am sure your family is pleased at your promotion too. Would be interested in knowing how long you've been keeping in touch with Mrs. Reagan? Ha. Would love to hear from you, if you'd

<sup>2.</sup>  
Care to write. My husband and I have  
a lovely daughter named Diana  
Lisa who's 22 yrs old and married  
to a fine young man named Curtis  
John Boldin. They live in Justin,  
Calif. He's in the Marines at the  
present time, but is planning  
on getting out in 18 mos.

Well, can't think of much  
else to write about, so will close.

Sincerely yours,

Bonnie Wise

March 20, 1987

Dear Mr. Mauzy:

Thank you for your kind message. I appreciate your warm words of support and confidence.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.  
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Robert L. Mauzy  
East 10503 Sixth Avenue  
Spokane, WA 99206

HHB/SW/WJB/RKS/jzf4  
HHB-1

U5  
HHB-T

Dear Mr. Baker:

If you run for president,  
I want to work for you.

I wrote you a letter +  
asked about preserving  
the song by Johnny Cash,  
"O Ragged Flag."

A few days later, you  
brought Johnny Cash up to  
Congress, + he sang this  
song for Dwea.

That's what I like: a  
man who takes an interest  
in the suggestions of a  
common citizen, + Dwea  
does something about it!

I'm all for you, + I do  
believe you have a real good  
chance to be president.  
Don't forget me if you run.

Sincerely,  
Bob Maury

MR & MRS ROBERT L MAURY  
EAST 10003 6TH AVE  
SPOKANE WA 99206

March 20, 1987

Dear Ms. Melone:

Thank you for your kind message. I appreciate your warm words of support and confidence.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.  
Chief of Staff to the President

Ms. Doris Melone  
5 Foster Drive  
Des Moines, IA 50312

HHB/SW/WJB/RKS/jzf4  
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H/B-1

March 7, 1987

Dear Senator Baker:

I am very happy you are helping our President and our Country. I know it is at great cost to you because you had other plans for yourself.

The press has been so vindictive of President Reagan that I stopped listening and turned off the three major net work's World News. While I do not approve of North or Poindexter, I have understanding. As a Mother and Grandmother I would move Heaven and Earth for any member of my family if they were being held hostage.

I have been a life long Republican. At the present time I will support Geo. Bush.

Sincerely,

*Doris Melone*

Doris Melone  
5 Foster Drive  
Des Moines, Iowa  
50312

March 20, 1987

Dear Mr. Altimari:

Thank you for your kind message. I appreciate your warm words of support and confidence.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.  
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Nicholas S. Altimari  
McCoy, Agoglia, Beckett & Fassberg  
80 East Old Country Road  
Mineola, NY 11501

HHB/SW/WJB/RKS/jzf4  
HHB-1

65  
HAB-1  
McCOY, AGOGLIA, BECKETT & FASSBERG, P.C.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
80 EAST OLD COUNTRY ROAD  
MINEOLA, N.Y. 11501

(516) 741-2422

PATRICK F. CROWE (1920-1969)  
HAROLD V. McCOY  
EMMET J. AGOGLIA  
ROBERT FASSBERG  
KATHLEEN M. BECKETT  
PATRICK J. CROWE  
BLANE MAGEE

PETER T. CONNOR  
ROBERT S. MURPHY  
NICHOLAS S. ALTIMARI  
FRED N. PERRY  
CRAIG D. HOLLAND

March 5, 1987

Honorable Howard H. Baker  
c/o The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 19806

Dear Senator:

I just wanted to write you a short note to tell you how happy Robin and I were upon hearing of your appointment.

I hope the nation is aware of the great personal sacrifice that you have made on their behalf. I know the decision not to run was a difficult one for you to make.

America's history is rich with great statesman. I was taught that statesman is a person who voluntarily undertakes important tasks that weaker men run from. When the final sentence of this painful chapter in our nation's history is written, I am confident that your statesmanlike sacrifice will be noted by your countrymen for years to come.

I have always considered myself blessed in having been born to a father of great legal talent and personal integrity, and having been given the opportunity to study under a United States Senator who possesses the same fine qualities. President Reagan could not have made a better choice.

I hope all is well at home. Please remember Robin and I to Mrs. Baker. Best wishes always.

*Nick*

Nicholas S. Altimari

U5  
HHB-1

Juscalosa Al-

Feb 28-1987

Mr Howard Baker.

Speaker of the House  
Washington DC.

Congratulations on your  
appointment.

My only regret is your  
decision not to run for  
the Presidential Nomination  
in 88.

But it is good to know you  
will restore a lot of respect  
and credibility to the White  
House.

May God be with you and  
Direct your effort to  
serve the Country in ~~the~~ the  
manner as which you are  
capable.

Sincerely

John Mims 4207 Hillwood Dr.

Juscalosa Al 33404

March 20, 1987

Dear Mrs. Alguire:

Thank you for your kind message. I appreciate your warm words of support and confidence.

With best wishes,

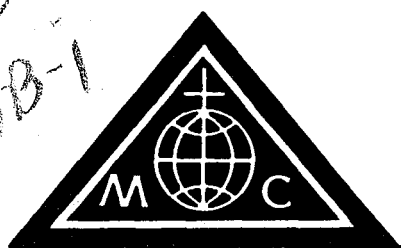
Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.  
Chief of Staff to the President

Mrs. Frances M. Alguire  
World Methodist Council  
764 Eighty Sixth Place  
Downers Grove, IL 60516

HHB/SW/WJB/RKS/jzf4  
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HOB-1



# World Methodist Council

## NORTH AMERICAN SECTION

**Mrs. Frances M. Alguire, President**  
764 Eighty Sixth Place  
Downers Grove, Illinois 60516  
Telephone: (312) 985-0175

**Bishop Vinton R. Anderson, First Vice President**  
P.O. Box 6416  
St. Louis, Missouri 63107  
Telephone: (314) 534-4274

March 7, 1987

Dear Mr. Baker,

Congratulations! ... and our appreciation to you, for your willingness to assume the very important responsibility as Chief of Staff.

My husband, Donald, and I have been life long Republicans and have lived in Illinois long enough to have voted for Senator Dirksen. We have followed your political career and very much support your leadership.

Enclosed are some clippings for your scrapbook, to give you an idea how some of the Chicago area journalists reported your first day on this new job.

Our very best wishes to you.

Sincerely,

Fran Alguire

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# What goes around, comes around

WASHINGTON—If ever proof were needed of that old political adage, "What goes around, comes around," last week's drama in Washington supplied it. Watching former Sen. Edmund S. Muskie of Maine read out the Tower Commission's indictment of the breakdown in Ronald Reagan's White House, and seeing the embattled President turn to former Sen. Howard H. Baker Jr. of Tennessee to lead the effort to revive a shattered administration, you had to be struck by the ironies of history.

Here are two men, Muskie and Baker, who once thought of themselves as legitimate contenders for the presidency. They not only lost the prize but have had reason to feel humiliated by agents of the man who, having succeeded, seemed so heedless of the responsibilities of the office he had won.

It is doubtful Reagan is even aware of the distasteful memories Muskie and Baker hold. But knowing the circumstances will give you a sense of the quality of these two men, symbols of the scores of professional politicians who put national duty above personal pique.

In May, 1981, Muskie was honored by the University of Notre Dame with its highest award, the Laetare Medal, a recognition of his career as governor of Maine, U.S. senator and secretary of state.

As it happened, the White House decided that it would be useful for President Reagan to make a speech at the same Notre Dame ceremonies. No one offered Muskie and his wife seats on Air Force One for the flight out from Washington. In acknowledging five Republicans on the platform in South Bend, the President somehow did not notice the distinguished Democrat the university was about to honor.

Reagan's schedulers told university officials he could not remain for the whole ceremony, so when the President finished his speech, there was a long interruption while the entire White House party and press corps packed up and left. Then, and only then, did Muskie receive his medal.

Yet there was not a trace of gloating or self-satisfaction in Muskie's voice as he read out the damaging findings of the Tower Commission. It was almost with a touch of sadness that the man from Maine said of the ill-conceived and mismanaged Iran policy, "It is the President who must take responsibility. . . ."

For Howard Baker, the turn of events is even more ironic. Baker challenged Reagan for the 1980 Republican presidential nomination and left the race after Reagan won the New Hampshire primary. For four years thereafter, he served loyally as Reagan's principal legislative lieutenant, using his position as Senate majority leader to carry one presidential initiative after another.

While Baker did not conceal his personal disagreements with some of Reagan's budget, defense and social-issue positions, he put loyalty to the President first and managed his contentious batch of Republican senators in a fashion which gave Reagan bedrock Senate backing throughout the first term.

As a reward, Baker was treated shabbily at the 1984 Republican National Convention in Dallas—as if he had been Reagan's worst critic. The small-minded Reagan operatives who controlled the convention schedule decided that this was their opportunity to humiliate Baker, who had announced he was leaving the Senate to practice law and presumably prepare for another presidential bid in 1988. They no longer needed him, they figured, and they wanted to make it plain that they didn't want him to be Reagan's successor.

## David Broder

Baker arrived in Dallas to learn that his convention speech had been scheduled during the portion of the evening when the networks would cut away to their local affiliates for commercials and local news. He told the White House aides to take that schedule and stuff it.

So they shifted his time. But the same ego-inflated Reagan operatives who had ordered the delegates to be in their seats, quiet and attentive, while such people as Jeane Kirkpatrick and Paul Laxalt spoke, conducted ostentatiously loud conversations in plain view of the podium during Baker's speech. The hall was in uproar.

I saw Baker the next morning at NBC's "Today Show." He was still steaming. Talking off-camera, I asked, "Senator, can you really imagine the people in that hall making you their nominee in four years?" "Either they'll have to change," he said, "or I will. And I'm too old to change."

Baker has not changed, but circumstances have. And now the man who was scorned has come in to replace Donald Regan, the flawed chief of staff to whom the President clung long after common sense dictated dismissal.

Baker willingly has put aside his own presidential ambitions to help save this presidency, and—mark my words—he will be attacked by the same unforgiving ideologues who sought to humiliate him in Dallas.

But he, like Muskie, has demonstrated that the professional politicians—the men and women who respect each other because they respect a process of government that is bigger than any personal ambitions, successes or setbacks—are the ultimate resource of leadership for this nation.

Those people, unlike the big-business amateurs and the ideologues, treat today's adversaries with respect, because they know they may be tomorrow's allies. They know that what goes around, comes around.

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Howard Baker

Morin/Miami Herald



**Mike  
Royko**

## An awake Reagan may be nightmare

Slats Grobnik looked up from a newspaper and told those at the bar, "This is very discouraging news."

Your horse didn't come in?

"It's what Howard Baker said about the President. It's very depressing."

What happened? Did the President forget who Howard Baker is or mistake him for Mickey Rooney?

"Just the opposite. Baker says that his first day on the job as chief of staff he had a long meeting with Reagan and he said the President is sharp as a tack."

They don't make tacks like they used to.

"Seriously. Let me read it to you. Baker said: 'I do not see a hands-off president, nor do I see an AWOL president. I see a man who is very much in touch with the issues before this country and that confront this government. . . . And I'm telling you—it's just one day's experience, and maybe that's not enough—but today he was superb.'"

Why, that's great news. In a pinch, you never know when we might need a hands-on president who is in touch with the issues. Why would you find that depressing?

"I'll tell you why. When all this Iran business came out, I started wondering why he'd do such weird stuff. I thought that maybe he was watching too many reruns of 'Get Smart.'"

There are some parallels in the plots.

"Yeah, but then the Tower report came out and suddenly it all made sense. They said it really wasn't Reagan's fault because he just doesn't pay much attention to what's going on and didn't know what those guys in his basement were up to."

They could have been repairing the furnace for all he knew.

"Right. And then his wife's lunch buddy, George Will, comes out with a nasty column that says that Reagan's problem is that he's lazy."

That ingrate. I hope he had the decency to pay for lunch.

"But all of that was really good news. It meant that we didn't have a president who was thinking up crazy deals, selling arms, pulling switcheroos with the money to the contras, then telling us none of it ever happened, that we were just hallucinating. We had a president who was lazy and didn't know what was going on, and if somebody told him what was going on, he'd forget it anyway."

That was good news?

"Sure, because if you have a president who's lazy and doesn't pay attention to what's going on, at least he won't do something goofy, since he won't be doing much of anything."

I hadn't thought of it that way.

"Then think about it. If you look at history, who caused most of the biggest problems? I'll tell you who: guys who had to have action, hyperactive types who couldn't sit still for 10 seconds without coming up with an idea for changing the world. Think of how much better it would have been if Hitler hadn't been so twitchy and had dozed off when one of his guys came up with the idea of invading Poland. Or if he wasn't sure which direction France was."

The French would have preferred it.

"Or if General Tojo had said: 'I don't think I'm up to bombing Pearl Harbor today. How about if we send out for some sushi and watch old samurai movies?' Or if Lenin had said to Stalin: 'Joe, do you know the kind of hours we'd have to put in to make a revolution in a country this big? And even if we do it, what will we have? The same miserable Moscow winters. Hey, let's take a run down to the Riviera and work on our tans.'"

But isn't there a limit on how passive a leader should be?

"Sure. And we didn't have anything to worry about. Nancy could always tell him, 'Wave at the camera, point at somebody in the crowd, remember to smile, and stand attention, they're playing our song.'"

Behind every man, there is a commander in chiefness.

"Right. But now Baker says Reagan is wide awake and is a hands-on guy. Even worse, he said it on a Monday. Nobody is supposed to be wide awake on Monday. So if he's wide awake and hands-on now, what was the problem a year ago when all the screwy things were happening that he can't remember and didn't know about anyway?"

It's possible that Baker caught him during a relapse and that he'll soon return to normal.

"I hope so. But to be on the safe side, they ought to run down the street to a hotel and get a sign to put on his office door knob."

What kind of sign?

"The one that says: 'Do not disturb.'"

PRESERVATION COPY

# Chicago Tribune

FOUNDED June 10, 1847

STANTON R. COOK, *Publisher*

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14 Section 1

Wednesday, March 4, 1987



THE NEW BAKER'S FIRST DAY.

March 20, 1987

Dear Mr. Nixon:

Thank you for your kind message. I appreciate your warm words of support and confidence.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.  
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. James B. Nixon, Jr.  
4891 Raven Place  
Marietta, GA 30066

HHB/SW/WJB/RKS/jzf4  
HHB-1

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HAB-1  
March 9, 1987

Hon. Howard H. Baker Jr.  
c/o The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.  
Washington, DC 20050

Dear Mr. Baker:

CONGRATULATIONS!!! My wife and I were so pleased to hear you were selected by the President to be Chief of Staff. In addition, we saw ABC news last week when you were selected "Person of the Week".

You came as a Godsend to President Reagan. He really needed a person who had the admiration of Congress and the American people. You are the perfect person for that role.

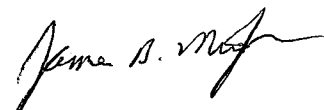
Although I would have supported you and voted for you as President in 1988, I really believe you made the right move. I think Dole will be a good candidate for the Republican party. I do not believe the democrats will have a strong candidate in 1988.

Like most Americans, I am sick of constantly hearing of the Iran issue. The President made a mistake, he apologized, and that should be the end of it. For some reason, the press seems to insist on keeping the issue alive. I wish they could look on the positive side of things. They seem to be so good at focusing on the negative. They have what I call the "Woodward-Bernstein" syndrome--"Attack and destroy everything". Be assured that most thinking Americans support you and the President.

As Tennesseans living in Georgia, we really miss Tennessee but visit it often. We are always glad to see positive publicity focused upon our state.

Keep up the good work!! We feel proud that you are once again serving America. Good Luck to you and President Reagan!!

Sincerely Yours,



James B. Nixon, Jr.  
4891 Raven Place  
Marietta, GA 30066  
(404) 988-2344  
(404) 924-1005

March 20, 1987

Dear Mrs. Hook:

Thank you for your kind message. I appreciate your warm words of support and confidence.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.  
Chief of Staff to the President

Mrs. Harry B. Van Hook, Jr.  
1714 Jacob Brunner  
Frederick, MD 21701

HHB/SW/WJB/RKS/jzf4  
HHB-1

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March 2, 1987

~~1113-1~~  
Dear Senator Baker,

Speaking as an old  
line, vote democratic, buy  
union made, buy American  
made Democrat I sleep

easier with you as  
part of the Adminis-  
tration.

Franz eschen Kour

Political philosophy but

I trust you to

understand our system  
of government with its  
checks & balances.

I trust you implicitly  
to work within our  
system.

I believe you have an

Ethics, that's all most  
Americans want in our  
Leaders.

Sincerely,

Margaret W. Van Hook  
124 Jacob Brunner  
Frederick, Md. 21701

GETTYSBURG NATIONAL MILITARY PARK

This monument commemorates the climax of Longstreet's assault,  
July 3, 1863, when Union forces successfully beat back the Confederate  
charge of 12,000 men.

The Charles H. Overly Studio  
© Harvard, Mass. 01451

